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EDC 102

FAE Chapters 2 and 3 Reflection

After reading Chapters 2 and 3 in *Foundations American Education*, there were some passages that I found interesting. In Chapter 2, I found it interesting that Emma Willard was introduced as being an activists for women’s education. Hearing of her and other education activists for women’s rights reminds us of how difficult it was in the past to receive an education. These days education is so intertwined in our lives that we forget that it wasn’t always the case that women were able to get an education. Today, women attend college, receive degrees and run businesses. But even a few decades back this was unheard of. I also found it somewhat surprising that private schools existed before public schools. But after thinking about it, it makes more sense because the wealthier families were able to pay for their children to go to school and then from that, the public schools began to form so that more children had access to education.

After reading Chapter 3, I found it interesting that elementary school teachers in colonial America usually only had an elementary school education and were not usually professionally prepared to teach. However, most colonial college teachers, private tutors, etc. had at least some form of a college education (Johnson et al., p. 67). I also found it interesting that most, if not all colonial children, were receiving an education in their developmental years by someone who wasn’t suited to teach. Today, elementary school teachers must receive some degree of higher education beyond a bachelor’s degree within a certain time period if they want to teach. I think that this shows how far the education system in America has come. We see the youth as the future of this country and want them to receive the best education possible from a young age.